

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 681

By Fincher

A RESOLUTION recognizing sister community status between
Pall Mall, Tennessee, and Chatel-Chehery,
France.

WHEREAS, from time to time, this General Assembly is asked to recognize the efforts of our communities to establish an international relationship with other communities, towns, and cities across the globe; and

WHEREAS, the citizenry of Pall Mall and of Fentress County comprise one such community, which recently announced its sister community status with the town of Chatel-Chehery, France; and

WHEREAS, Pall Mall was the home of Sergeant Alvin C. York, World War I's greatest hero and the most decorated soldier in American history, decoration which includes the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest honor the United States government can bestow upon a member of its armed forces; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant York, a proud member of the 328th Infantry, United States Army, was recognized, by both the United States government and the government of France, for his actions in and around the community of Chatel-Chehery in the Argonne Forest on October 8, 1918. After his battalion suffered heavy losses by an entrenched machine gun nest, Sergeant York bravely led seven men in an attack on the thirty-five machine guns, killing twenty German soldiers and capturing 132 more upon their surrender in the face of his terrific onslaught; and

WHEREAS, French Field Marshal Ferdinand Foch awarded York the Croix de Guerre, describing his battlefield action as "the greatest thing accomplished by any private soldier in all the armies of Europe;" and

WHEREAS, the French citizenry have honored Sergeant York's memory by naming a ridge near Chatel-Chehery "Mount York" and erecting a monument to Sergeant York beside the

Chatel-Chehery village hall in 1987, memorializing the one hundredth anniversary of his birth;
and

WHEREAS, in a fitting recognition of the role both communities played in the life of the greatest hero of World War I and perhaps the finest and bravest military hero in United States history, Pall Mall and Chatel-Chehery recently announced their sister community status; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize that the communities of Pall Mall, Tennessee, and Chatel-Chehery, France, have enjoined themselves into sister community status, a fitting tribute to the life of Sergeant Alvin C. York, and we our deepest gratitude for their efforts in preserving the memory of one of Tennessee's bravest sons.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.